



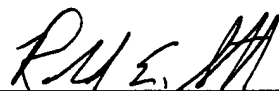
Remarks:

Figs. 7, 8, and 9A-D include obvious errors that are corrected as indicated in the Annotated Sheets.

This Rule 312 Amendment is made prior to payment of the Issue Fee. If it cannot be entered for any reason, a telephone call to the undersigned at (727) 507-8558 is requested.

Very respectfully,

SMITH & HOPEN

By: 

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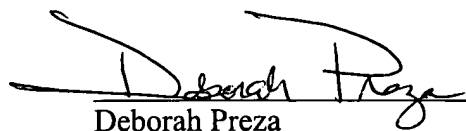
Dated: May 4, 2004

pc: Aldo A. Laghi, Ph.D.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
(37 C.F.R. 1.8)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this Rule 312 Amendment, including Introductory Comments, Amendments to the Drawing Figures, and Remarks, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service by first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 4, 2004.

Dated: May 4, 2004


Deborah Preza



Application No. 10/249,427
Rule 312 Amendment dated May 4, 2004
Reply to Notice of Allowance mailed April 5, 2004
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

FIG. 7

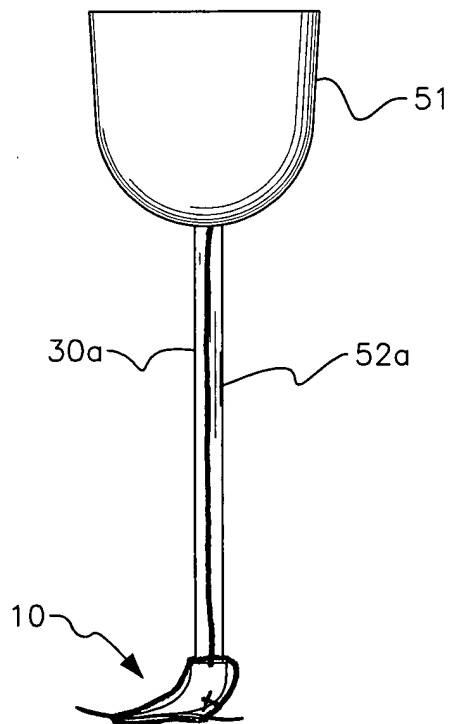
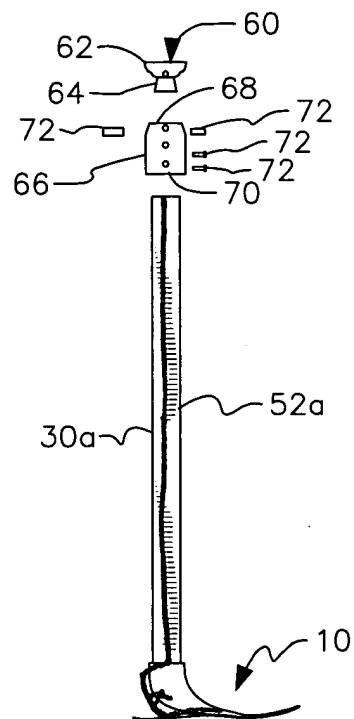


FIG. 8



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Application No. 10/249,427
Rule 312 Amendment dated May 4, 2004
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FIG. 9A

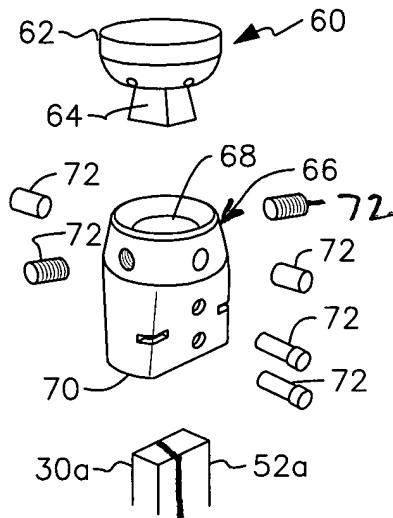


FIG. 9B

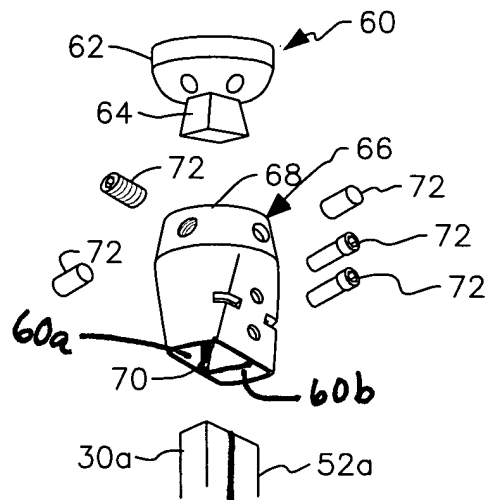


FIG. 9C

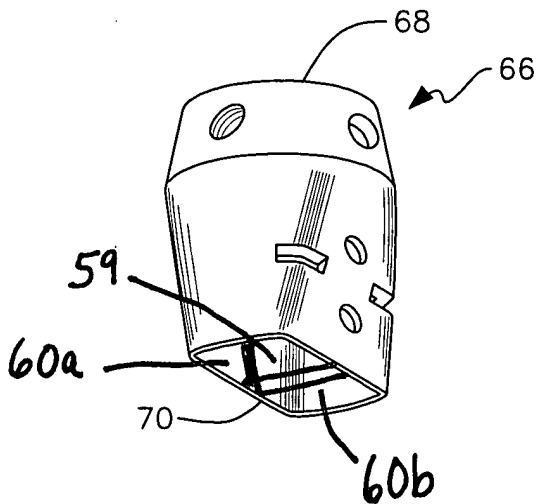
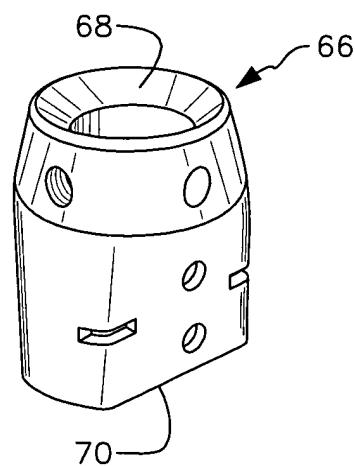


FIG. 9D



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